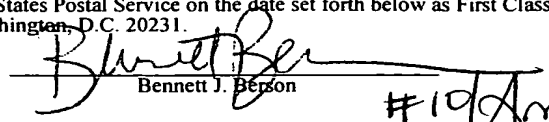


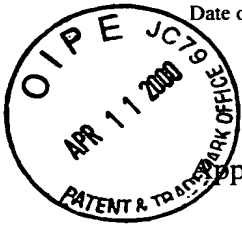
APR 17 2000

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Signature and Deposit: April 7, 2000


Bennett J. Benson #107 Amet



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: William F. Dove
Alexandra Shedlovsky

Date: April 7, 2000

Serial No.: 09/114,973

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: 07/14/98

Examiner: B. Forman

Title: METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING
MUTANTS AND MOLECULES

Docket No.: 960296.95491

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to an Office Action mailed December 7, 1999, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

AI Page 1, line 12, delete "Not applicable." and insert therefor This invention was made with United States government support awarded by the following agency: NIH Grant Nos: CA23076, CA50585, CA63677, and CA 07175. The United States has certain rights in this invention.--

Page 13, line 16, delete ~~screen~~ and insert therefor --screened--.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 16, 17, 19, 21, and 25 as follows:

Sub C1
A2
1. (Amended) A method for identifying a segregating mutation at a genetic locus that modifies an index phenotype in [an] a non-human index inbred strain, the segregating mutation causing an outlying phenotype relative to the index phenotype, the method comprising the steps of:

outcrossing [a] at least one male animal of a non-human founder inbred strain to [an] at least one female animal of a non-human index inbred strain to obtain F₁ progeny, the founder inbred strain carrying random point mutations relative to a wild-type animal of the founder inbred strain, the index inbred strain carrying a congenic dominant allele at a locus